

White Paper

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Institution: Sealaska Heritage Foundation

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SEALASKA
HERITAGE

PRESERVING CULTURAL COLLECTIONS THROUGH SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

PRESENTERS:

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Sealaska Heritage Institute

- A regional Native non-profit organization -- 501(c)(3)
- Conceived by clan leaders, traditional scholars and Elders at the first Sealaska Elders Conference in 1980
- Mission: to perpetuate and enhance Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian cultures
- Goal: to promote cultural diversity and cross-cultural understanding
- Serves the THT peoples residing in 21 traditional villages and communities in Southeast Alaska; 21,000 Sealaska shareholders residing in Alaska and the lower 48; 70,000 residents of Southeast Alaska; about 1 million tourists in summer months; students and teachers of JSD and UAS; and scholars and researchers from around the world
- The mission of SHI's Library, Collections and Archives Program is to collect and preserve materials that document the history, culture, heritage, and languages of the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian people and to make these materials available to the public for educational purposes

HAA AANÍ: OUR LAND

Honoring and Utilizing Our Land

Indigenous people have lived in this land for more than 10,000 years. Our ancestors taught us that everything has a Spirit, and protected the ownership of our land for their children and grandchildren, just as we must do for future generations.

HAA SHUKÁ: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS

Honoring our Ancestors and Future Generation

We maintain strong bonds with our ancestors whom we honor through our lives and in our ceremonies. We also have responsibilities to future generations, and we must ensure that we protect our land and culture for our children and grandchildren and those who will follow them.

HAA LATSEEN: OUR STRENGTH

Strength of Body, Mind and Spirit

The “Way of the Warriors” path is to achieve physical and inner strength. Above all, young men and women are taught to protect and to care for their families and clans, to seek truth and knowledge and to adapt to changing times while maintaining the integrity of our ancient values.

WOOCH YAX: BALANCE

Maintaining Spiritual and Social Balance and Harmony

Wooch Yax governs interrelationships between clans, tribes, nations and institutions. It must be maintained to ensure social and spiritual harmony. Wooch Yax includes Kaa yaa awuné (Respect for Others) and At yaa awuné (Respect for All Things).



Walter Soboleff Building Grand Opening - May 15, 2015



Building designed and constructed to LEED Gold standards (Sustainability)

- Designed for energy conservation: wood pellet burner for heating, double intensity toilet flushing, low volume sink faucets
- Energy efficient building envelope: 18” insulation in roof, triple glaze windows, etc.
- Excess building materials were re-cycled or given away
- Comfortable and pleasing interior for occupants
- Certification in process (lengthy process)

Grant Title: Preserving Cultural Collections through Sustainable Practices

Grant source: NEH, Division of Preservation and Access
Grant program: Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections

Submitted: December 2013
Received: July 2014
Completed: September 2016

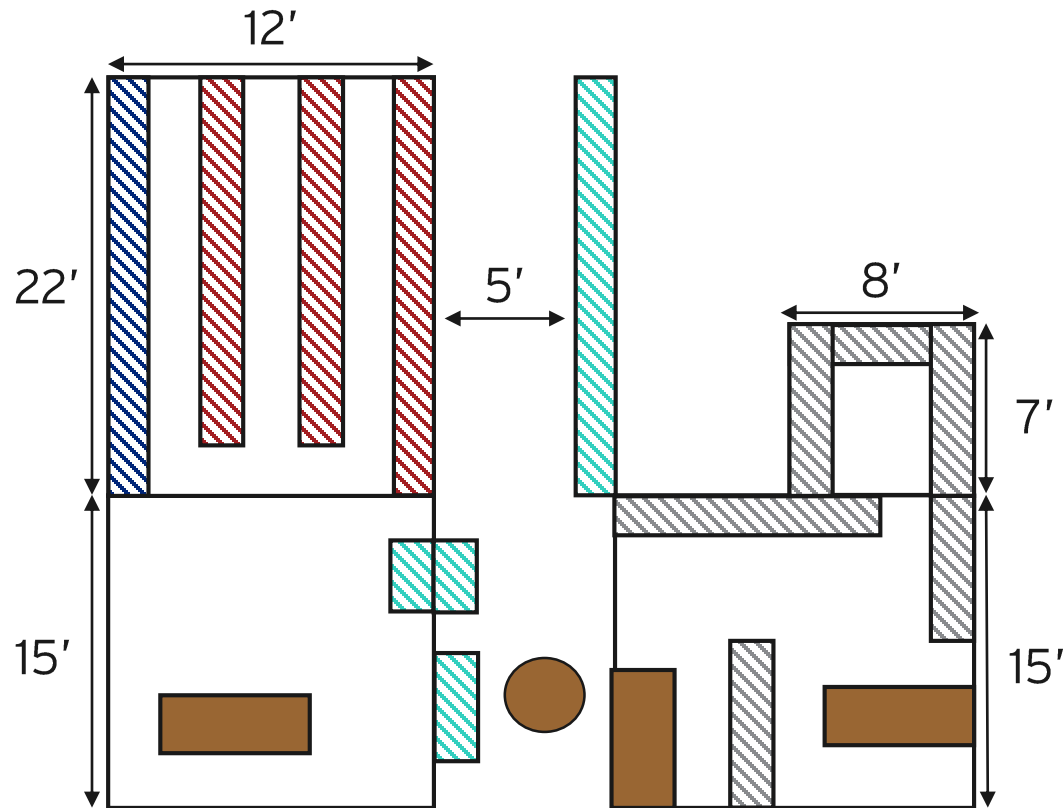
Grant Amount: \$367,852
NEH Portion: \$182,654
SHI Portion: \$185,198

Grant Title: Preserving Cultural Collections through Sustainable Practices

Grant Objectives:

1. To purchase and install conservation-quality compact shelving structures that would be integrated with systems to manage relative humidity, temperature, light and pollutants in a dedicated collection storage space.
2. To construct preservation quality object storage mounts and containers for 100 fragile artifacts identified as in need of storage treatment for preservation purposes, as a component of sustainable practices related to storage treatments.
3. To conduct public education about the project through social media, news releases and a conference presentation documenting “lessons learned” about a potential model for facilities seeking innovative and sustainable museum practices responsive to both environmental and collection impact.

Prior Collections Storage: Closets, Hallway and Offices



- Books
- Ethnographic and art objects
- Manuscripts and photographs
- Recordings
- Furnishings

Pre-Installation

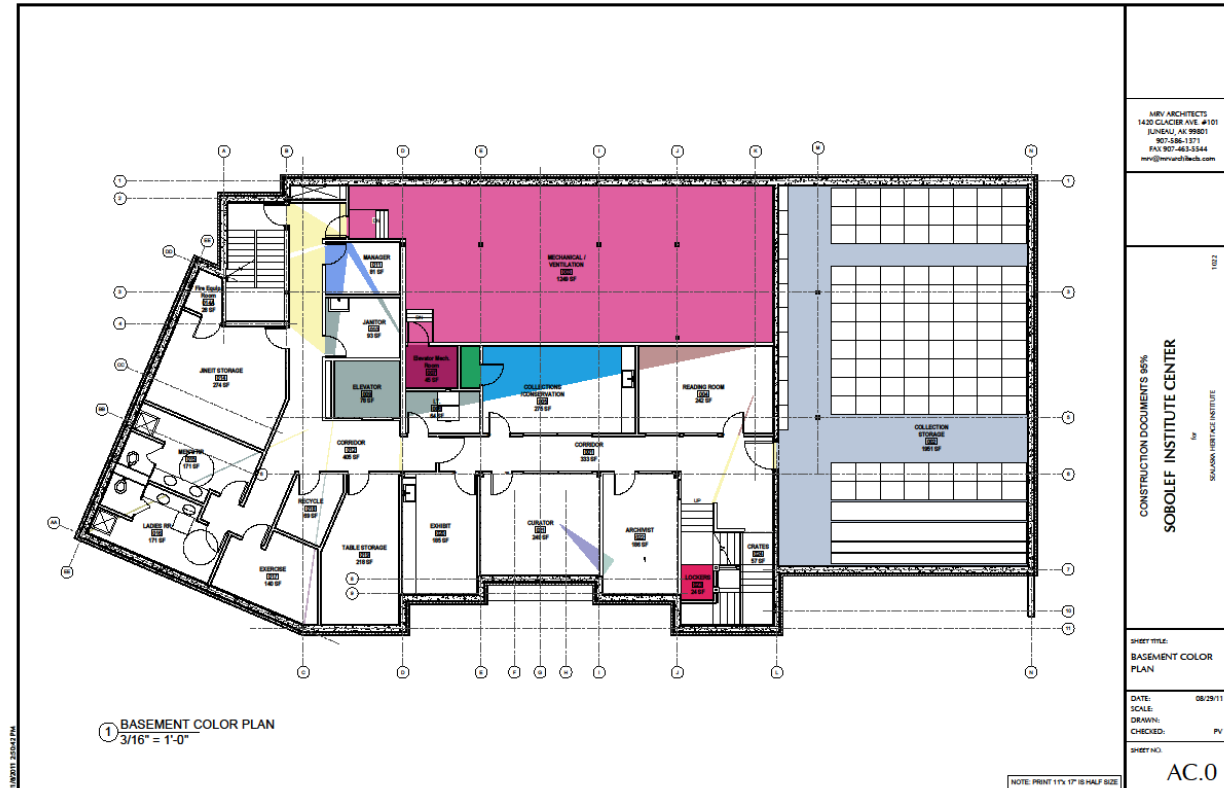


New Floor Plan - Basement

Vault storage footprint:

- 56' long x 36' wide x 11' high
- 1956 sq ft

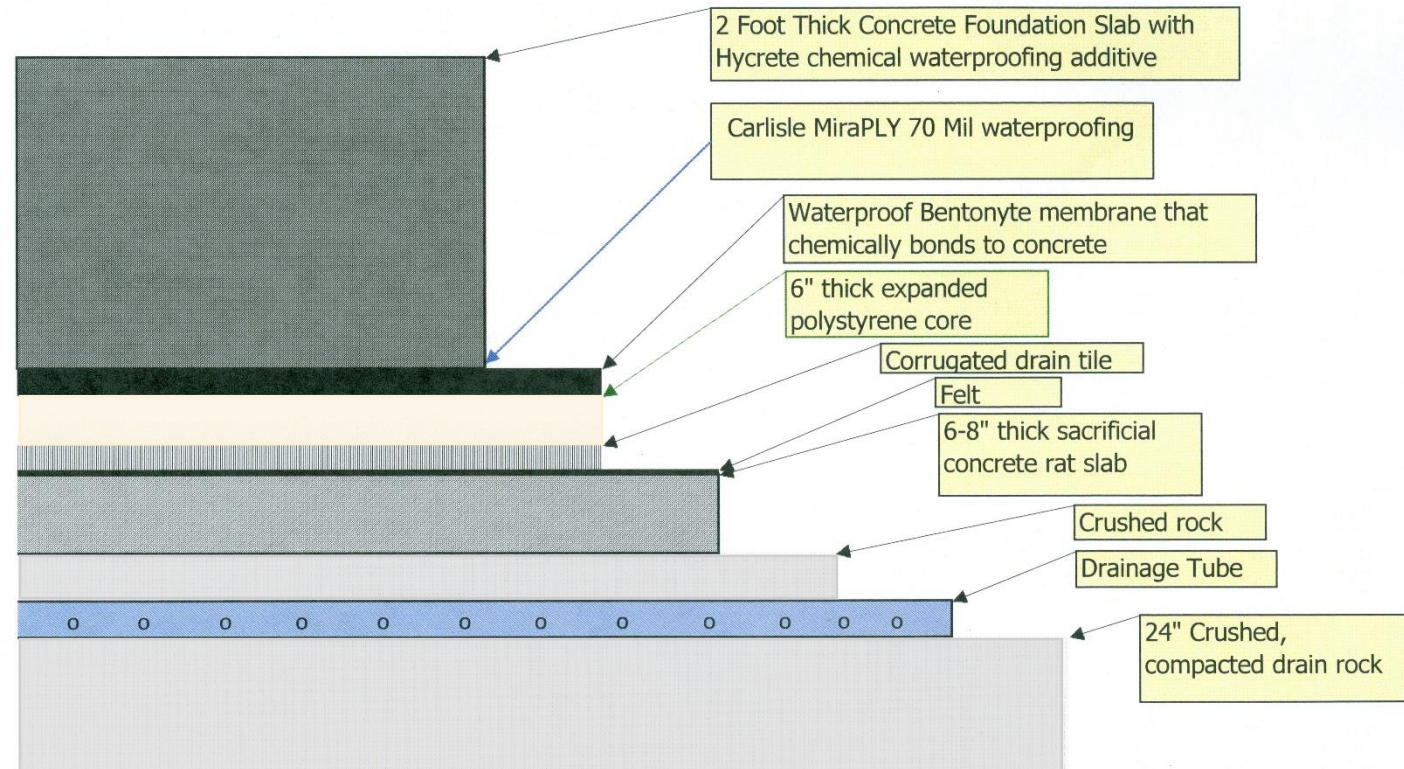
Designed with climate controls, security, and compact storage equipment



Walter Soboleff Building Construction 2013-2015



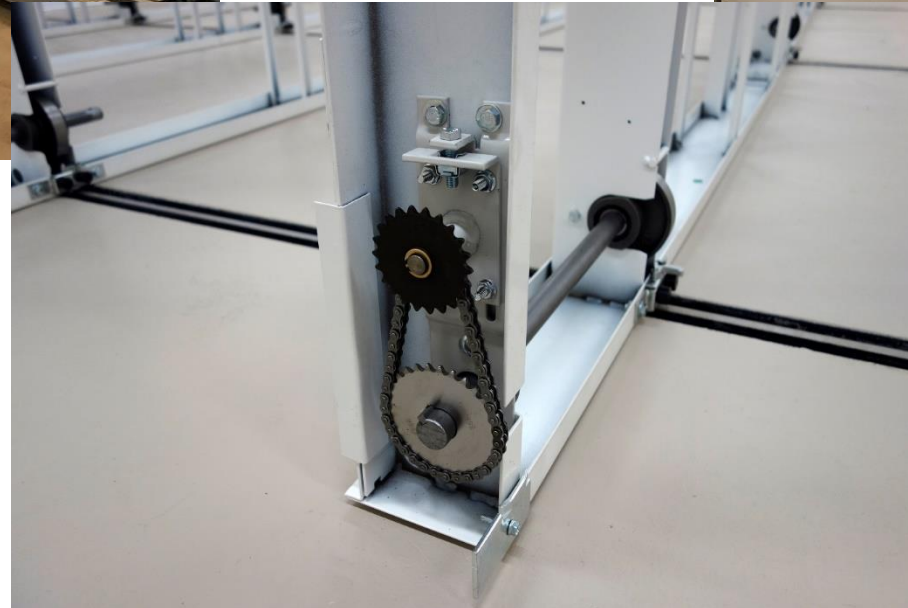
Waterproofing Envelope Below Ground



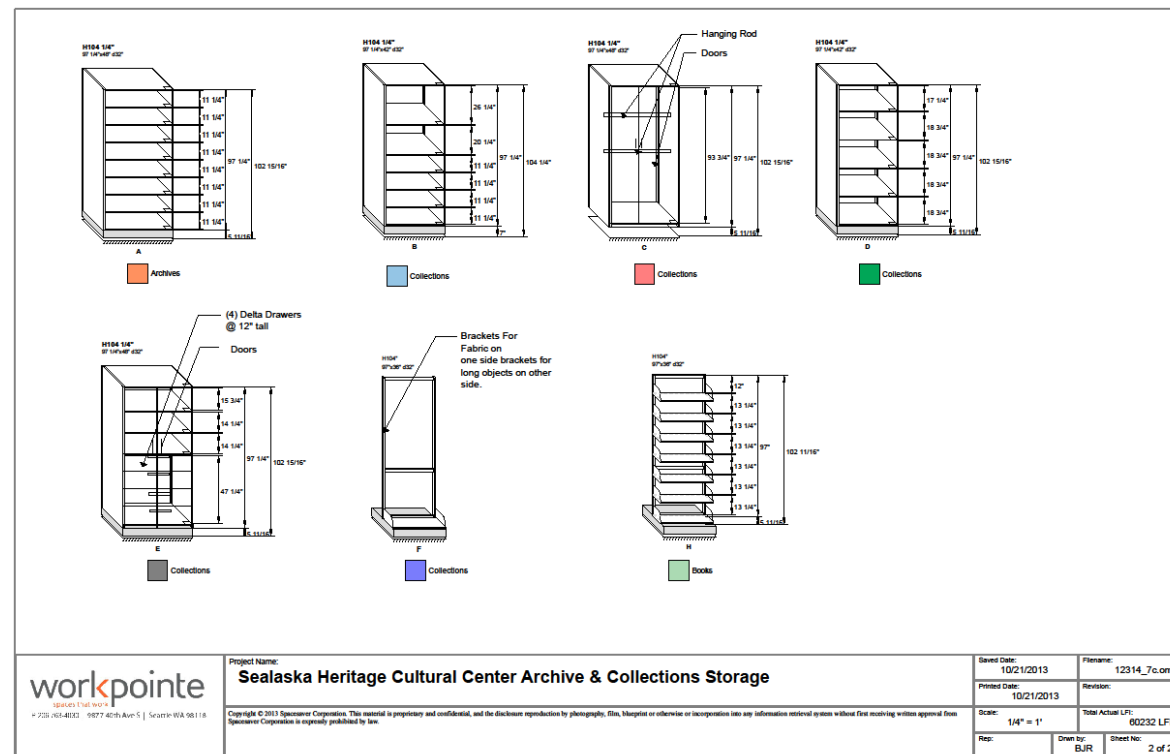
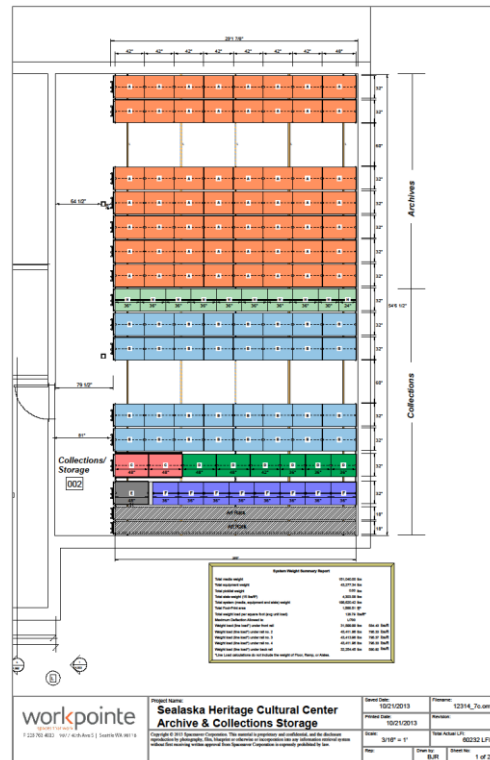
Spacesaver (now Workpointe)

- Steel or aluminum construction with electrostatic powder coat paint finish that does not off-gas
- Shelves: 300 lbs minimum capacity (up to 2500 lbs)
- Original configuration:
 - Archival shelving
 - Library shelving
 - Collections shelving (incl. units w hanging rods, drawers, rolled storage)
 - Art Racks

Walter Soboleff Building – Vault Preparation



Vault Layout – Initial Proposal from Spacesaver



Space Needs

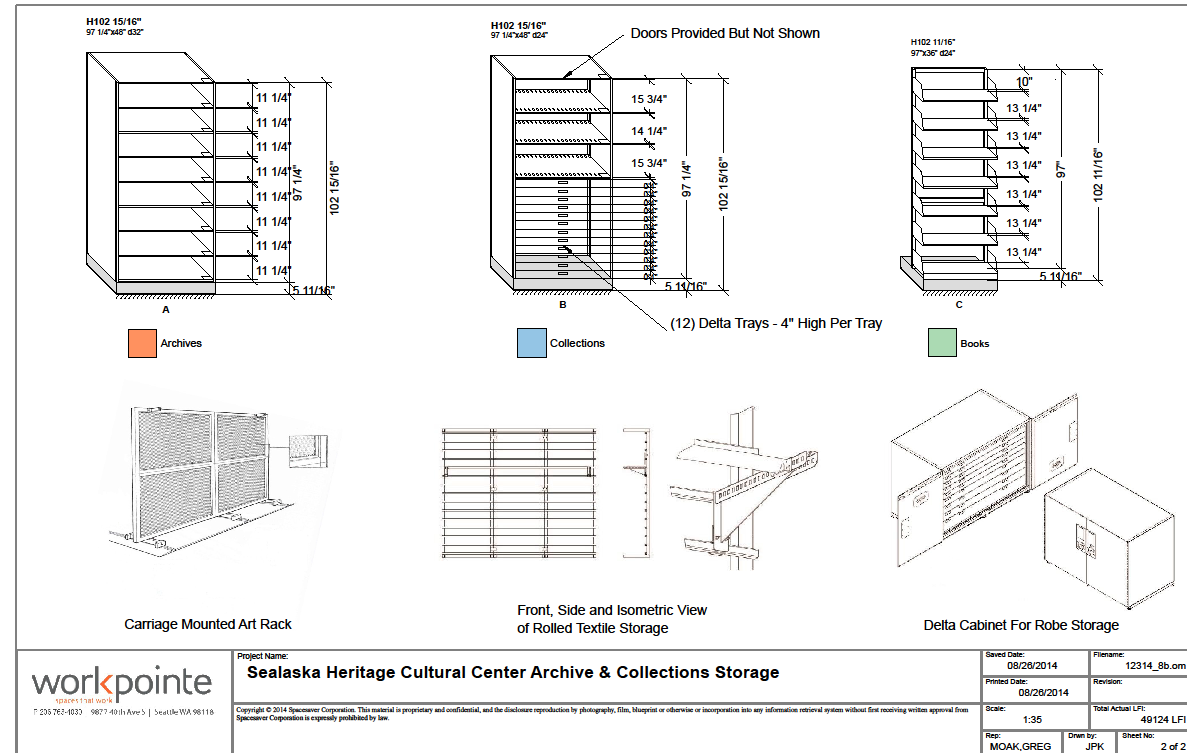
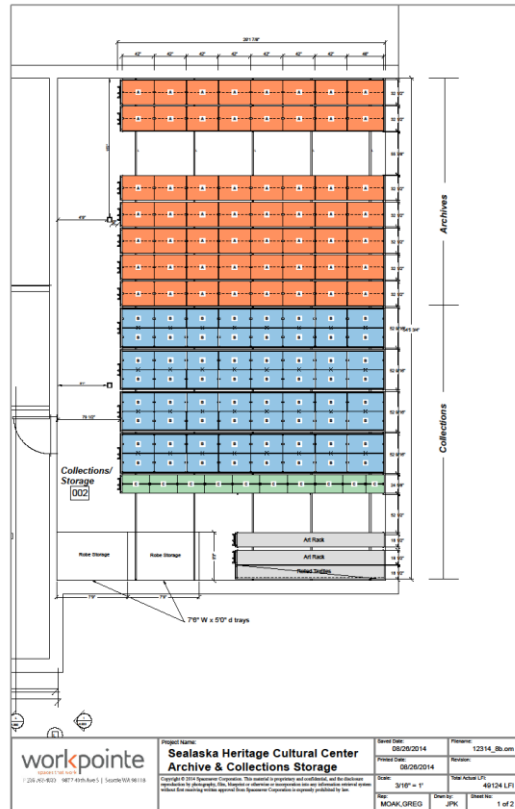
• Ethnographic Collection	149 linear feet + oversize
• Manuscript Collection	446 linear feet + oversize
• Photograph Collection	20 linear feet + oversize
• Recording Collection	182 linear feet
• Rosita Worl Papers	96 linear feet
• Unprocessed Collection	117 linear feet

Storage Design Choices

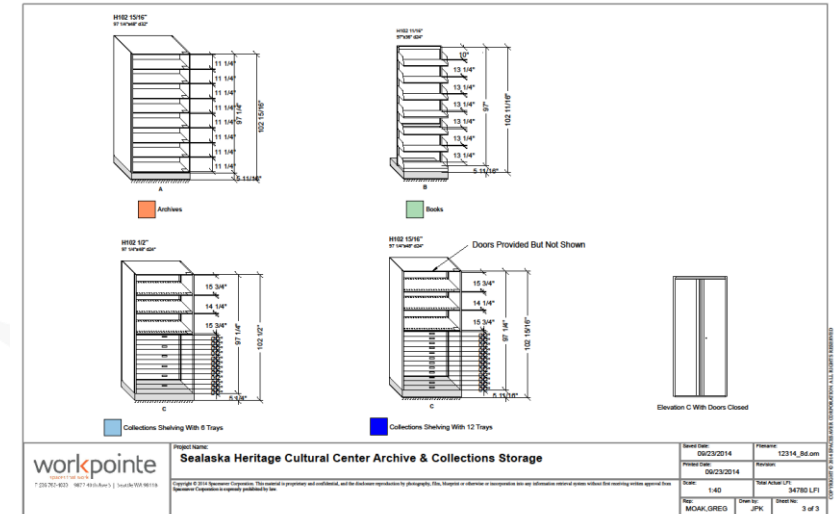
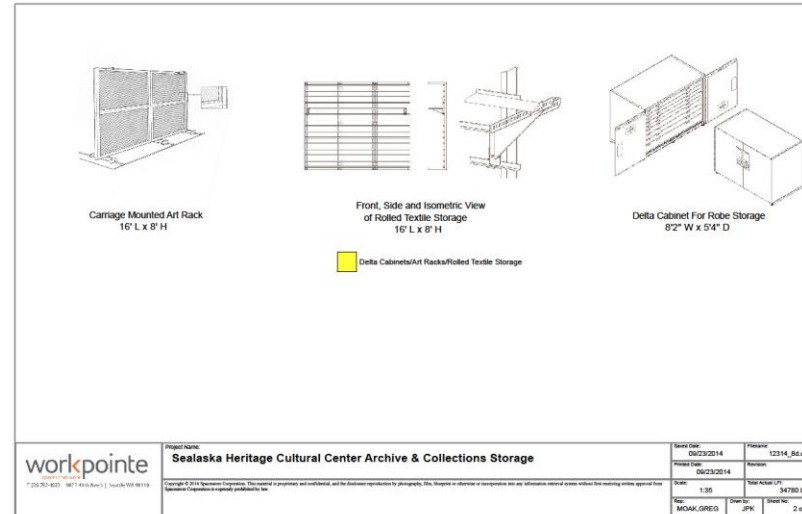
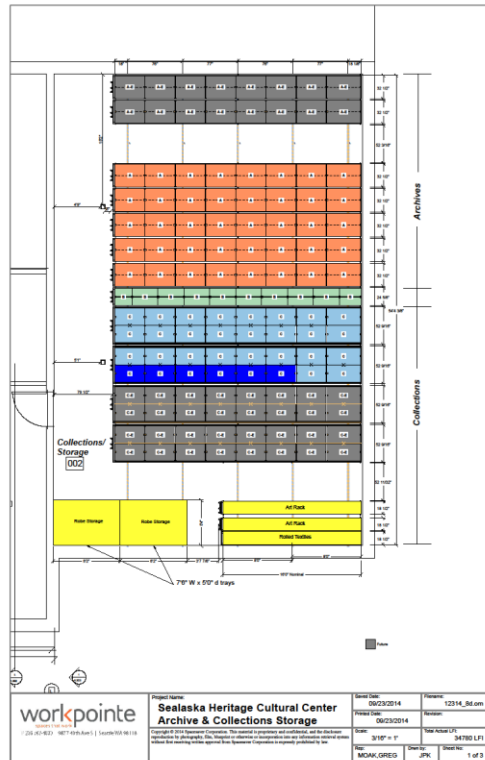


- Workpointe suggested color coding with different colors for library, archives, and ethnographic objects
- Final selection: Cottonwood

Vault Layout - Full Option



Vault Layout – Final Proposal





Archives

- Compact storage
 - 28.5' long x 8.15' high
- Shelves
 - 42" length x 11" high x 15.75" deep
 - 128 shelves per carriage
 - Hold up to 300 lbs
- One double-sided unit to allow for oversized items like maps and panoramic photographs



Library

- Compact storage
 - 28.5' long x 8.15' high
- Shelves
 - 2 23" wide x 15" high x 11" deep
 - 8 35.5" wide x 15" high x 11" deep
 - 140 shelves per carriage



Issues

- Replaced 15" deep shelves with 11" deep shelves
- Center-stops vs backstops:
 - This was not discussed in initial order and became an issue later



Ethnographic Objects

- Compact storage
 - 28.5' long x 8.15' high
- Drawers (sliding trays)
 - 1.75" high and spaced 2" apart vertically
- Shelves
 - 42" wide x 24" deep



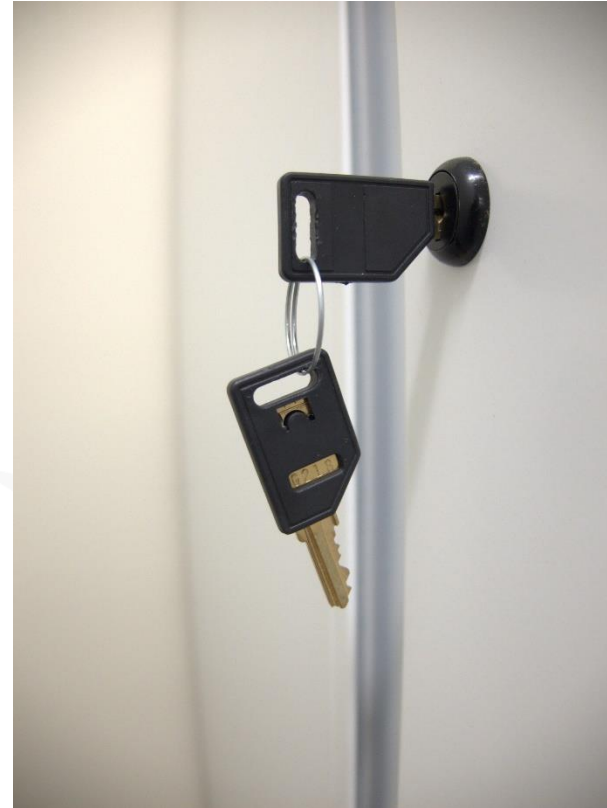
Issue

- Doors:
 - Tall and narrow
 - Flimsy
 - Did not fit together well
 - Fitted with strong magnets
- Solutions:
 - Spacers added to hinges
 - Removed magnets



Issue

- Locks:
 - A different key for each cabinet
- Solution:
 - Change out locks so one key works on all locks in each row



Rolled Storage

- Storage capacity:
 - 28 rolls at 7' long and 7" in diameter
- Types of objects:
 - Pendleton blankets, plain woolen blankets



Issue

- Rollers:
 - Too long for racks
- Solution:
 - Cut rollers and reinstalled plastic end caps



Art Racks



- Storage capacity:
 - 2 double-sided rows
 - 8.75' height x 15.85' width x 18.75" depth
- Accept "S" hook to allow storage of hanging artwork

Issue



- Parts:
 - Workpointe did not ship all the parts
- Solution:
 - Workpointe ordered parts and installed later

Textile Cabinets

- Delta Designs - Series 700
- Cabinet size
 - 8'2" wide x 5'4" deep x 5' high
 - 14 drawers
 - 6" adjustable base
- Custom drawer sizes
 - 60" deep x 90" wide x 3" high

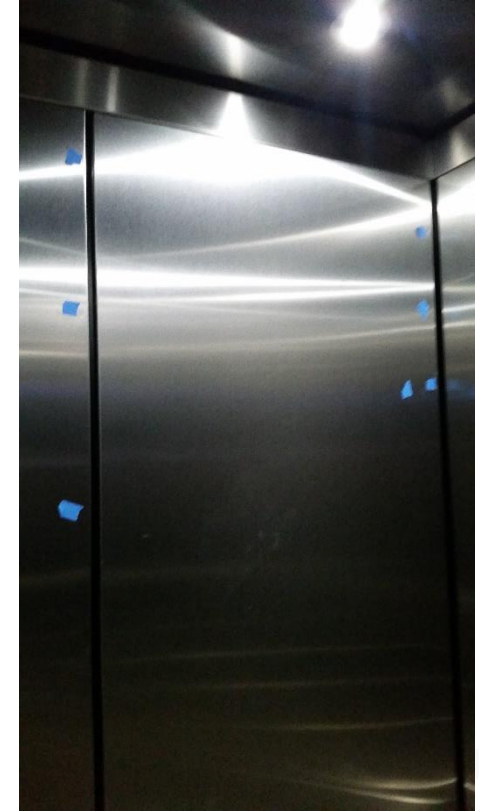


Issues

- Installation
 - External frame was not collapsible
 - Storage of parts
 - Elevator damage
- Solution
 - Reorder collapsible frame
 - No end solution for elevator



Damaged Elevator



Preparing for the Move



Storage Mounts for Sustainability

- Storage mounts were made for:
Baskets, masks, textiles, totem pole models, stone tools, dolls, war helmets, armor and pipes
- The grant called for a contractor (Jon Loring) to make 100 storage mounts. He made over 130.



Storage Mounts for Sustainability



- Dual purpose mounts:
 - Protect the more sensitive objects from the rigors of moving
 - Serve as long term storage mounts in new location

Storage Mounts and Packing Supplies - Purchases



ULINE	\$653.00
<u>TALAS</u>	<u>\$2,614.05</u>
Total	\$3,267.05

Other potential vendors:

- Benchmark
- Gaylord
- University Products

Moving Collections



Installation Issue: Need for Staging Area



Installation Issue: Need to Cover Floors



Installation Issue: Damaged Equipment



Three Types of Damage

1. Many items damaged in shipment: pull-out trays, tray brackets, dents on cabinet doors, dented/bent/warped archival shelves
2. Damages caused by installers
3. Problems in manufacturing: check for paint issues and poor fit

Installation Delays

- Initial install:
 - January-February 2015
- Interim install:
 - June 2015
- Final install:
 - December 2015

Line	Task	Location	Product Type	Part #	#	Color	Order Number	Ship Date	Received	Est Comp Date	Act Comp Date
1	Adjust all doors	CO7 and CO8	Labor Only	N/A	12	Cottonwood	N/A	Product Onsite	Product Onsite	6/5/2015	
2	Repair damage to door flange	CO8, U01	Labor Only	N/A	N/A	1	N/A	Product Onsite	Product Onsite	6/5/2015	
3	Check hardware is correct at bottom of Art Racks, make all needed reads	Art Rack	Labor Only	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Product Onsite	6/5/2015	
4	Repair damaged shelves	CO2, U06, S04 CO2, U06, S01 CO4, U06, S06 CO3, U06, S07 CO4, U06, S06 CO7, U06, S02 CO7, U06, S02 CO7, U06, S02	Labor Only	N/A	8	N/A	N/A	Product Onsite	Product Onsite	6/5/2015	
5	Remove (3) c-stops from (3) sections, reinstall (4) on other sections	CO5	Labor Only	N/A	4	Cottonwood	N/A	Product Onsite	Product Onsite	6/5/2015	
6	Reposition all shelves so that they are on bottom of each section	CO7 and CO8	Labor Only	N/A	N/A	Cottonwood	N/A	Product Onsite	Product Onsite	6/5/2015	
7	Change only center stops to face same direction	Throughout	Labor Only	N/A	N/A	Cottonwood	N/A	Product Onsite	Product Onsite	6/5/2015	
8	Provide and install rail stops	Left Corner	1 rail stop left	37042-01	2	N/A	N/A	From warehouse	N/A	6/5/2015	
9	Provide and install back stops	CO6	Continuous Back Stops	2865 / 40 16 / 46 / 12 / 12 / 62	25	Cottonwood	511798-001	6/1/2015	5/1/2015	6/5/2015	
10	Provide and install damage closure panels	Art Rack	18" Damage Closure Panels	Not Specified	4	Cottonwood	511798-003	5/6/2015	5/18/2015	6/5/2015	
11	Provide and install art rack closure panels	Art Rack	Art Rack Closure Panels	CCP-VA04H	3	Cottonwood	N115768-008	5/6/2015	5/18/2015	6/5/2015	
12	Replace damaged shelves	CO4, U06, S06	Flare Shelf	SH-4024-P	2	Cottonwood	511798-004	5/6/2015	5/18/2015	6/5/2015	
13	Replace damaged upright	CO4, U2/3	Upright	US-3297-CT	1	Cottonwood	511798-004	5/6/2015	5/18/2015	6/5/2015	
14	Replace damaged shelves	CO6	Flare Shelf	SH-4024-S	1	Cottonwood	511798-004	5/6/2015	5/18/2015	6/5/2015	
15	Provide and install card holders	Throughout	Card Holders	C18750-05	16	N/A	511798-004	5/6/2015	5/18/2015	6/5/2015	
16	Touch up paint where needed	Throughout	Paint	09078-01	4	Cottonwood	511798-004	5/6/2015	5/18/2015	6/5/2015	
17	Provide and install new lock cores, keyset per rear	CO7, CO8	Lock core	550487-001	28	N/A	N117006-002	5/6/2015	5/18/2015	6/5/2015	
18	Provide and install door magnets	CO7 and CO8	Door Magnet	Not Specified	24	N/A	511798-003	5/6/2015	5/18/2015	6/5/2015	
19	Replace damaged drawers	CO7	42" Delta Drawers	Delta	15	Cottonwood		4/30/2015	5/20/2015	6/5/2015	
20	Replace damaged drawers	CO7	48" Delta Drawers	Delta	2	Cottonwood		4/30/2015	5/20/2015	6/5/2015	
21	Provide and install drawer pulls	CO7	Delta Drawer Pulls	Delta	16 sets	Cottonwood		4/30/2015	5/20/2015	6/5/2015	
22	Repair and touch-up chips on drawer sides	CO8, U01 and U03	Labor Only	N/A	12	Cottonwood	N/A			6/5/2015	
23	Provide and install Delta drawer faces	Delta Storage	Delta Drawer Face	Delta	4	Cottonwood		4/30/2015	5/20/2015	6/5/2015	
24	Replace Tumble Support Rods	Helix Tumble	Tubes	Delta	20	Cottonwood		4/30/2015	5/21/2015	6/5/2015	
25	Remove and install Latch-RO lockers	Front of System	Delta	Delta	2	Cottonwood		4/30/2015	5/22/2015	6/11 - 6/12/2015	
26	Damage - One window stile	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
27	Damage - Scratch in elevator	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
28	Damage - One small mark on wall	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
29	Damage - Core base in hallway	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

30. Damage floor

Key locks changed

- 1 row done

- nuts & bolts & sheet

✓

✓ need 2 42" stops

✓

- rail stops are here

- need 20 more

✓

- wrong size

✓

✓ need 6

- hardware

✓

- damaged

- damaged

- in crate

✓

Lessons

- Plan well in advance starting with building construction
- Stay with it, work through it, and find a technician who knows the equipment
- Document all damage to building and equipment with photographs at time of incident
- Negotiate reimbursement of damages with contractor
- Plan to have a staging area for delivery and for damaged equipment
- Need to cover floors and pad elevator walls
- Expect shipping and installation delays
- After each installation, make a checklist of every issue noted and discuss with contractor to plan resolution

Devil's Club

